

within a human chromosomal locus selected from the group consisting of: 1p21-q13, 1q25-q31, 6p21.2-cen, 6q, 6q14-q16.2, 7p21-p15, 7q31.3-32, 8q24, 11p12-q13, 13q34, 16p12.1, 17p, 17p13-p12, 17q, 18q21.1-q21.3, 19q13.3, 22q12.1-q13.2, and Xp11.4.

- 5 65. An animal model for arterial wall disruptive disorder comprising a transgenic animal which carries a genetically modified drusen-associated marker gene.

- 10 66. The animal model of claim 65, wherein the drusen-associated marker gene is selected from the group consisting of: immunoglobulins, amyloid A (α 1 amyloid A), amyloid P component, C5 and C5b-9 terminal complexes, HLA-DR, fibrinogen, Factor X, and prothrombin, complements 3, 5 and 9, complement reactive protein (CRP), immunoglobulin lambda and kappa light chains, Factor X, HLA-DR, apolipoprotein A, apolipoprotein E, antichymotrypsin, β 2 microglobulin, factor X, fibrinogen, prothrombin, thrombospondin, elastin, collagen, vitronectin, ICAM-1, LFA1, LFA3, B7, IL-1, IL-6, IL-12, TNF-alpha, GM-CSF, heat shock proteins, colony stimulating factors (GM-CSF, M-CSFs), TNF α , IL-10, HLA-DR, CD68, vitronectin, apolipoprotein E, clusterin, S-100, death protein, heat shock protein 70, proteasome, Cu/Zn superoxide dismutase, cathepsins, death adaptor protein RAIDD, Ig mu, Ig lambda, Ig J, Ig kappa chains, CD1a, CD4, CD14, CD68, CD83, CD86, CD45, PECAM, MMP14, ubiquitin, FGF, IL-1, IL-6, IL-12, TNF-alpha, and GM-CSF.

- 20 67. A kit for diagnosing arterial wall disruptive disorder comprising at least two antibodies selected from the group consisting of: an anti-elastin antibody, and anti-collagen antibody, an anti-chemokine antibody, and anti-vitronectin antibody.

Abstract of the Invention:

The invention provides diagnostics, therapeutics and drug screening assays for arterial wall disruptive disorders, based on the discovery of a high level of correlation between the incidence of arterial wall disruptive disorders and the incidence of Age Related Macular Degeneration (AMD). In one embodiment, the arterial wall disruptive disorder is an aortic aneurysm.

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